

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Notice of Remedial Action Decision Document
Fact Sheet

Facility: Cedar Chemical Corporation
Facility Location: Helena-West Helena, Phillips County, Arkansas
EPA I. D. Number: ARD990660649

The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has issued a Remedial Action Decision Document (RADD) for the Cedar Chemical Corporation (the Facility). This RADD has been developed to allow the public and interested parties to review plans for Facility clean-up before implementation. After a public comment period, ADEQ will then prepare a final RADD to initiate Facility clean-up.

Documents used in preparation of the RADD, along with the RADD, comprise the administrative record. The administrative record is available for review at the following locations:

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Records Management Section
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas, 72118

UAMS Area Health Education Centers Delta
1393 Highway 242 South
Helena-West Helena, AR 72342

The Facility is located just to the south of the city of Helena-West Helena, in Phillips County, Arkansas. The Facility consists of approximately 48 acres located within the Helena-West Helena Industrial Park, approximately 1.25 miles southwest of the intersection of U.S. Highway 49 and State Highway 242. The Facility is bordered by farmland, State Highway 242, the Union-Pacific Railway, and industrial park properties. Of the 48 acres, approximately 40 acres comprise the abandoned manufacturing fenced area of the Facility. The current wastewater treatment ponds are located on an additional 8 acres of the property.

The Facility was constructed and initially operated by Helena Chemical in 1970. The Facility was eventually purchased by Ansul for dinoseb production beginning in 1972. In 1986, the Facility was sold to Cedar Chemical Corporation.

During its operational life, the Facility manufactured various agricultural chemicals, including insecticides, herbicides, polymers, and organic intermediates. Plant processes were batch operations, with seasonal production fluctuations and the frequent introduction of new products

On March 8, 2002, Cedar Chemical Corporation filed for bankruptcy. Manufacturing and plant operations were shut down shortly thereafter. ADEQ assumed control of the Facility on October 12, 2002 and currently acts as the caretaker of the Facility. Currently, the Facility remains abandoned while security guards provide 24 hour maintenance within the fenced area.

As documented in the Comprehensive Assessment Report prepared by ADEQ dated April 2004, the existing environmental issues associated with the Facility included abandoned chemicals, buried drums, groundwater contamination, surface and subsurface soil contamination, and an abandoned stormwater treatment system.

Any person who wishes to comment on this decision to issue a remedial action decision, request a public hearing, or add their name to the mailing list concerning ADEQ decisions about this matter must do so by hand delivering, mailing, or faxing written comments along with their name and address, to ADEQ at the address below.

Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality
Clyde E. Rhodes, Jr.
Chief, Hazardous Waste Division
5301 Northshore Drive
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-5317
Telephone: (501) 682-0916 Fax: (501) 682-0565

All comments and requests must be received by 4:30 p.m. on February 30, 2010. Only comments regarding the RADD will be considered.

Submitting written comments to ADEQ or making oral statements on the record at any formal public hearing on the RADD provides individuals with legal standing to appeal a final Department decision. Only parties with legal standing may appeal a decision.

After the public comment period, ADEQ may, in response to written requests, hold a public hearing if the ADEQ Director determines such a hearing might clarify issues concerning the RADD. Any request for a hearing must include the requestor's name and address and shall state the nature of the issues to be raised in a hearing. ADEQ will issue a public notice of a hearing at least thirty (30) days prior to the scheduled hearing.

The RADD is issued under the authority of the Arkansas Hazardous Waste Management Act (Arkansas Code Annotated Section 8-7-201 and following sections), the Arkansas Remedial Action Trust Fund Act (Arkansas Code Annotated Section 8-7-501 and following sections) as amended, and Arkansas Pollution Control and Ecology Commission (APC&EC) Regulation No. 23. This public notice and other actions for this remedial action decision will follow procedures for permitting decisions in APC&EC Regulation No. 8.

Dated this 30th day of January, 2010

Teresa Marks
Director
Arkansas Dept. of Environmental Quality